Edmonton Bulletin.

VOL. VI. EDMONTON, ALBERTA, SATURDAY, JULY 11TH, 1885. NO. 37.

TELEGRAPHIC.

WINNIPEG, July 10, 1885.

The Salisbury government has decided not to support the motion of Parnell in regard to the Maamtrasna murder trials, and the likelihood is that the alliance with Parnell will soon be broken up.

Russia has declared that she will make no concessions on the Afghan question. Russian officers seem to be intriguing with the Afghans, stirring up discontent among them with England. Warlike signs are again apparent.

The different regiments stationed in the west are now converging on Winnipeg, and will probably gather here next week. Gen. Middleton has promised to review them here before going east. Eastern troops coming with the generals will not touch at Winnipeg, but go direct home from from Selkirk. Preparations are going on for a hearty reception of the Winnipeg boys on Monday.

Blake moved an amendment to the motion for supply, charging that the rebellion was caused by government neglect and mismanagement. He supported the amendment in a seven hours' speech, in which he gave a history of the trouble from its origin. Sir John retorted that the liberals sympathized with the half-breeds. The debate was continued until yesterday, when the amendment was defeated by a vote of 107 to 40.

STRAUBENZIE, July 9, 1885.

Col. Williams, of the Midland battalion, took a cold at Pitt which within a few days developed into brain fever. On leaving Pitt the doctors gave no hope of saving his life, as symptoms of pneumonia and typhoid fever had shown themselves. He died on the boat before reaching Battleford.

LOCAL.

RIVER rising considerably.

SUNDAY is the 12th of July.

HEAVY rain on Wednesday.

OATS are heading out, likewise wheat.

DANCE at W. Rowland's on Tuesday evening.

E. LOOBY left for Winnipeg via. Calgary, on Tuesday.

THE men wounded at Pitt have gone to Battleford.

C. STEWART and D. McLeod leave for Calgary to-day.

W. S. ROBERTSON arrived from Calgary on Saturday last.

REV. Messrs. McLachlan and Howard left for Calgary this morning.

FRESHET is now said to be down to old figures, 2½ cts. from Calgary.

F. D. WILSON left for Prince Albert per skiff on Saturday morning last.

No service in the Methodist church to-morrow, as the pastor is absent at Calgary.

THE demand for mowers has been lively during the past week and hay will soon be ready to cut.

E. LOOBY and several other Edmonton teamsters arrived from Ft. Pitt by land on Sunday afternoon.

A TRAIN of carts belonging to P. Pruden, with freight for the H. B. Co., arrived from Calgary on Friday.

MESSRS. R. Hardisty and Jas. McDougall, chief factor and factor of the H. B. Co., left for Calgary on Friday.

THE last of the Pitt teamsters arrived on Friday. They were allowed eleven days in which to make the trip.

CAPT. DES GEORGES left for Calgary on Sunday evening, expecting to meet the 65th on its way home at Winnipeg.

THE money advertised in the BULLETIN of last issue, as having been found near T. Houston's house, has been claimed.

STRAWBERRIES are plentiful, but few are offered for sale as there are few Indian women about town to pick them.

THE late rains have spoiled the roads, but have greatly improved the appearance of the crops, which were in need of rain.

REV. Angus Robertson, of Calgary, who arrived on Friday, will conduct the services in the Presbyterian church on Sabbath.

W. J. YOUMANS, father of J. A. Youmans Methodist mission school teacher at White fish lake, was murdered lately in the town of Paris, Texas.

THE Spectator is the title of a new weekly paper published in Winnipeg by Mack Howse & Co. It is a good specimen of printing and the reading matter is interesting. It is published in the milling and mining interests

REV. MESSRS. Mackenzie and Robertson, Presbyterian missionaries at MacLeod and Calgary respectively, arrived from the latter place on Friday.

THE days are becoming perceptibly shorter, but still the reflection of daylight can be seen on the northern horizon the whole of every clear night.

MAJORS Steele and Hatton left on Friday morning for Calgary. Their commands crossed the river on Thursday and camped a short distance out.

ABOUT thirty scrip were issued at Victoria, most of which were purchased by R. Logan. None of the Lac la Biche people came out for it, as the distance was too great.

STEELE'S command of the Alberta field force started across the river on Thursday, bound for Calgary. They are entirely in the dark as to what their next move will be, whether they will be held for further service or disbanded.

A TRAIN of four waggons arrived on Thursday with freight for A. Macdonald & Co. The outfit belongs to the firm, having been purchased in order to get around the high rates of freight lately prevailing.

CAPT. HAMILTON, supply and transport officer for the Alberta field force at Edmonton, left for Calgary on Friday, to wind up his share of the supply business there. He will probably return in about three weeks.

WHEN the scouts left Pitt, Col. Smith's battalion of Light Infantry, and thirteen police of Steele's detachment, including a sergeant and two corporals, were left in garrison there. The infantry would leave by the next boat, leaving only the police.

W. R. BERRETON has a magnificent mountain sheep's head from an animal shot near Jasper house winter before last. The horns are very large, perfect and heavy. The wonder is how so small an animal can carry so great a weight.

A SICK horse parade was made at the fort on Friday forenoon, and the teamsters whose horses had suffered damage from accident or disease received extra allowances according to the amount of damage sustained. Five or six paraded. The troubles were chiefly epizootic and hoof disease.

JAS. MCMUNN is authority for the statement that at the left hand side of the road passing up the hill at the lower ferry, are two black poplar trees, growing near together, which are connected about twenty feet from the ground by a branch which grows equally from each one. A pair of wooden Siamese twins.

THE Presbyterian Review is the name of a new weekly published in Toronto in the interests of the church whose name it bears. Geo. E. Robinson, proprietor, subscription $1 a year. It is full of interesting matter, well edited and remarkably well printed, but it can scarcely be published profitably at so small a price.

STEELE'S scouts and Hatton's mounted rifles arrived from Pitt on Monday, accompanied by some of the teams of the transport train. A number more of the transport teams arrived on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. J. Price lost a horse on the trip. There was considerable sickness amongst the horses at Pitt before the train left.

THE scrip commissioners made a very short stay at Victoria, issuing very few scrip, and passed on down the river. A number of half-breeds in the employ of the Alberta field force, who were with the scouts on their way up, were not seen by the commissioners and have consequently not received their scrip, to which they, above all others, were certainly entitled.

COL. WILLIAMS, who died on the way from Pitt to Battleford, was from Port Hope, Ont., was a member of parliament and Col. of the Midland provisional battalion, which he had raised and which led the charge at Batoche. To Col. Williams is generally accorded the credit of the victory which resulted from that charge, in which he led his men. His father was a British naval officer.

GEN. Middleton has an original method of treating hostile Indians. Skewack, who came as a spy from Big Bear's camp to Whitefish lake at the outbreak of the trouble, and when joined by Big Bear's scouts tried to induce the Whitefish lake Indians to kill Mr. Youmans, and finally went off with the scouts, was captured near Pitt with war paint still on his face and clothing. Gen. Middleton had him guarded carefully in a tent for a day or two, and then fitted him out with a horse and rifle as a scout. No doubt he was a good one—for Big Bear.

ON Monday Capt. McIntosh, of No. 7 company, Light Infantry, received orders by telegraph to leave for Pitt with his company, by the first boat. On Thursday he received countermanding orders, and the company will accordingly remain here for some time longer. The remainder of the battalion is at Pitt, under Col. Smith, the rest of the troops having left. The force at Pitt is out of supplies, and stores will be sent from Edmonton by steamer.

MAJOR Butler, having concluded to abandon his residence, company and prospects at Beaver lake, while at Beaver river in the government service prevailed upon General Middleton to allow him six transport teams from the Alberta field force with which to transport himself, his family and effects to Calgary. He left Ft. Saskatchewan on Wednesday and went out by way of Edmonton, not going to Beaver lake at all. The goods at Beaver lake were seized by the sheriff.

THE last detachment of the St. Albert's rifles arrived from Lac la Biche on Tuesday last, under Lieut. Bellerose. The first detachment, with Captain Des Georges, of the 65th, in command, Capt. Cunningham and 2nd Lieut. Mahony, arrived on the Saturday previous, having left Lac la Biche on Tuesday the 30th. Capt. Des Georges desired to reach Victoria in time to catch the steamer and join the 65th, but failed to do so, and came on to Edmonton. Everything was quiet at Lac la Biche when the troop left. Many of the people, both half-breeds and Indians, had gone to the woods to be out of any trouble that might take place. The H. B. premises were abandoned as well as all the buildings in the vicinity. The troop camped in a building belonging to the Roman Catholic mission, about eight miles from the H. B. post. The time of the men was occupied during their stay in mounted and foot drill, rifle practice and ordinary military duty. St. Jean Baptiste day was celebrated in good shape with religious services and games. Mosquitoes, sand flies and bull dogs were very troublesome. Two Chipewyans who had been with Big Bear came to the mission during their stay, but had nothing new to report. The people at the lake seemed to be about equally divided between fear of Big Bear's Indians and of the government forces. On the arrival of the St. Albert men the officers went to the camps of some of the Indians concerned in the plundering of the H. B. store and interviewed them on the subject. They said that when Big Bear's scouts, six or eight in number, arrived at Beaver lake, inciting the Indians there to murder and pillage, two messengers came in to Lac la Biche and reported their arrival, and what their intentions were. On hearing the news the Lac la Biche Indians gathered at the Hudson's Bay Co. store, and Patrick Pruden, who was in charge, told them they might as well help themselves to whatever they wanted, as when Big Bear's men came they would take all at any rate. They did so, and Pruden took means to have his family sent to the west end of the lake for safety. He then came back and gave the keys to the Indians and went away himself. When Big Bear's scouts came with the more hostile Indians from Beaver lake they found no one there, and, of course, completed thoroughly the work that had been commenced, at the same time sending word to the mission that they would call around there in a few days and make free with the place, but they never came. On Mr. Young's arrival from Edmonton the Lac la Biche Indians returned most of the goods that had been taken by them, but, of course, the goods taken and property destroyed by Big Bear's men is total loss. The above account may be considered as putting the best side of the Indians' story out, as it was told by themselves when in fear of punishment, although no doubt there is some truth in it. No crop has been put in at the lake this season and the prospects of a hard winter for most of the people are excellent, especially should fish or fur, or both fail.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

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ll be held. The grave matters now re-
settlement in the North-West at the
of the Canadian government, require
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West through their representatives, in
that at next session of parliament an
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members of the North-West council in
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inted from Ottawa, and there is more
han a probability that in future their
uggestions will receive greater heed than in
he past. More importance will attach to
what they say. Extra powers will probably
be granted to the council by the next amend-
ments to the North-West act, as a means of
avoiding responsibility by the federal govern-
ment, if for no more creditable reason, and
what those powers will be will be to a great
extent decided by the attitude of the council
to be elected. It is most important that the
people should take every care that the men
who are best able to represent their wishes,
feelings and interests should be elected for
the next council term.

THE SITUATION.

When what may now be called the late rebellion was well under way and speculations as to its immediate and ultimate results were in order, it was generally supposed that not the least benefit likely to flow from it would be the permanent settlement of the question of half-breed and Indian rights. It was thought that justice which before had been so sadly lacking, partly through want of foresight and partly through want of force, as well as for sundry other reasons, would now be done. That when rebellion had been suppressed by the strong hand, robbers and murderers would be punished according to their crimes, and grievances would be examined into and redressed. That while with the one hand rebellion was choked, with the other causes of the rebellion would be removed. The strong hand was represented by the five thousand volunteers who had been brought into the North-West, and the hand of justice by the land and scrip commission which was to make a tour of the country. It was necessary in every good interest that both hands should perform their duties well.

When the scrip commissioners began operations it appeared to be their desire to wind up the scrip claims entirely and satisfactorily, as well as to attend to such land matters as required their attention. But as the rebellion was gradually brought under control their desire to complete their work seemed to decrease. When they reached Edmonton they had no time to listen to complaints in regard to land, although precisely similar claims had been adjudicated in Qu'Appelle, their sessions were held without notice and closed as soon as applicants ceased to come in. They left a very large number of scrip claims unattended to at Edmonton, and a great many more at Lac la Biche, and left no assurance whatever that the parties thus left without scrip would ever receive it. It is not to be supposed that the gentlemen comprising the commission, who seemed to be most willing to do all that lay in their power towards the satisfactory performance of their duties, acted so without orders. Had they been told to clean up their work as they went no doubt they would have been only too happy to have done so. But as the danger which to a great extent called the commission into existence was passed, the government, which had been scared into doing justice, repented of what it had done, and tried to make up by slighting the remainder of the work. If another commission is not appointed or some means taken to satisfy the outstanding claims, a gross injustice will be done which may yet have serious consequences.

But if the hand of justice has failed in its purpose, the hand of power that was to have meted out retribution has failed more signally. While admitting that the government has deliberately educated the Indians into rebellion, that is no reason why they should not be held accountable for their actions, or that the lessons they have thus learned should not be whipped out of them. While the Indians and half-breeds at the South Branch committed no very grave excesses, and therefore were entitled to somewhat liberal treatment, that was not the case at Battleford and much less at Pitt. At Battleford, at least three unprovoked murders were committed, a country laid waste, and a population reduced almost to beggary. Instead of the Indians being whipped into submission and then punished, their surrender was accepted, a few dozen old fusees were accepted as their arms, which they were to give up, and all but two or three were sent to their reserves, rationed, and allowed to retain their plunder, while the people they had robbed were allowed seed grain on Shylock conditions, or to fish for themselves as best they might. This method of treatment was bad enough, but the climax was capped at Pitt. Here a notoriously cowardly old scoundrel who has been fomenting trouble for nearly ten years, who had caused ten atrocious and unprovoked murders to be committed, was allowed to walk deliberately away from a force of infantry, cavalry, artillery and gatlings—almost from under the noses of 1,500 men ready and willing to follow him. The insanity that could have impelled a government or a commanding officer to do such a thing is terrible to think of. What though Big Bear does hereafter surrender or is captured, his exploits will be told and retold in every Indian camp in the North-West. He will be a hero, and the young men will be fired to deeds of murder and pillage by the stories that will be told of him. On the other hand had he been pursued to the death, and an example made of him and his murdering followers, no matter what halo of romance might have been thrown around him by the dusky novelist—who, by the way, is not inferior to his white confrere in lying ability—the simple fact that he was buried baldheaded would go further to convince the Indian mind of present and future generations of the iniquity of murder and pillage than all the moral orations of bumptious generals, all the work of conscientious Indian agents, or all the efforts of the most zealous missionaries. Had Big Bear been properly punished, the manner of dealing with Poundmaker might have not mattered much, but to actually give up the pursuit of Big Bear and allow him to be exalted as an invincible hero instead of demonstrating that he could be both beaten, caught and killed, is the crowning mistake in the administration of North-West Indian affairs. Let a portion of any class of white men in the country be allowed to set the law at defiance and what is the consequence, but trouble, worse and more of it constantly recurring, and how can anything better be expected in the case of Indians with whom to murder an enemy is an act of virtue? Through the failure to capture Big Bear the Canadian government may consider that about 50 cts. of every dollar expended on the North-West expedition of '85 has been thrown away. When the Indian question has assumed the shape it is now in in the North-West, there is just one way to settle it. Not to do this with the means at hand is a gross failure in results, and is looked upon by the Indians not as of mercy, but of weakness and cowardice, and they will govern themselves accordingly.

THE ALBERTA FIELD FORCE.

The advance detachment of the Alberta field force, under General Strange, comprising Major Steele's command of 93 police and scouts, and four companies of the 65th, arrived at Edmonton from Calgary on the 1st of May. Of these one company was sent to garrison Ft. Saskatchewan at once. On the 5th a second detachment under Major Perry, comprising three more companies of the 65th and 21 police, with a nine pounder gun, arrived. One company of this detachment was sent to garrison a post at Battle river. On the 8th Major Steele's police and scouts and four companies of the 65th under Col. Hughes, left for Victoria by team, where they arrived on the 15th and remained until the 21st. A third detachment comprising four companies of the Light Infantry under Col. Osborne Smith, with Major Hatton's troop, 50 men, of the Mounted Rifles, arrived on Sunday the 10th. On the 12th Major Hatton's men with some of the police from Ft. Saskatchewan were sent to Battle river to make arrests. On the 14th the four companies of the Light Infantry embarked on flat boats and left for Victoria, the general accompanying them, and arrived at Victoria on the 20th. On the 19th No. 4 company of the Light Infantry arrived from Calgary and went forward by boat to Victoria on the 23rd. Major Hatton's command returned from Battle river on the 16th, coming up with the east on the 16th, coming up with [illegible] and at Dog Rump creek. Nos. 5 and [illegible] of the Light Infantry arrived [illegible] the 30th, and No. 6 company left for [illegible] the same evening by flat boat, joining [illegible] command at Pitt on June 3rd.

On the arrival of the advan[illegible]orce at Victoria a scouting party under [illegible]ieut. Coryall was sent on to saddle lake and found no Indians. Returning, on the 19th they were started for Frog lake. The party were Lieut. Coryell, Rev. Canon McKay, W. West, — Hunt, J. Calder, Neche and the Rowland Bros. They reached Frog lake without having seen any Indians and found two f the bodies. The party returned, the Rowlands remaining at Dog Rump creek. The whole command left Victoria on the 21st and arrived at Saddle lake, 40 miles distant, that night. The same night Sgt. G. Borrodale and — Scott, of the scouts, left in a canoe for Battleford with despatches for Gen. Middleton. They made the trip all right, passing Pitt while the Indians were still camped near. They were complimented by Gen. Middleton. On the 22nd the command moved on and Capt. Oswald with 15 scouts went forward to Pitt in advance. They arrived at Pitt on the night of the 24th, and found it evacuated and burning. Reported to the command at Frog lake on the morning of the 25th, as the place was being scouted and the bodies recovered and buried. Up to that time seven in all had been buried. The whole command moved on to Pitt, arriving on the evening of the 30th, having made, from Victoria, 180 miles in five days. On the 26th the body of policeman Cowan was buried. As it was supposed that the Indians had crossed the river, a party of police and scouts under Major Perry accompanied by Rev. John McDougall, crossed the river to scout on the south side, and finally proceeded to Battleford, having seen no Indians. On the afternoon of the 26th Major Steele's command took the back trail looking for Indian signs, and when near Onion lake, about 8 miles out, saw single travoix marks turning off north. They followed these for a mile or two until they finally came together in one large road which turned easterly and reached the bank of the river about three miles below Pitt, about midnight. The trail went right to the river bank and then branched up and down stream. The command was halted on raised ground near the bank, while Major Steele, Capt. Wright, Sgt. Butlin and trooper Taos. McLellan went down to the water's edge. They followed a trail up stream a short distance and turned toward the command. When near the flanking troopers, Butlin saw two Indians get up from under the bank and make for their horses which were picketed near by, one of them being in plain view all the time, but was mistaken for that of a trooper. Butlin called to them, "Who are you," in Cree, and the tallest answered, "Chesqua." Butlin fired at once, wounding him. Both Indians returned the fire. Major Steele then fired, and the tall Indian backed up, preparing to fire again, almost under McLellan's horse's feet. McLellan then put two shots into him, and he rolled over close to Sgt. Simons, who was flanking the column on the right. The horses were taken, but the other Indian got away. His body was reported to have been found near the field the next day. When the firing ceased the scouts dismounted and charged through the bushes, but found no more Indians. They then lay down in a drizzling rain until morning. At daylight on the 27th they started east on the trail of the Indians, which was distinctly marked, and followed near the Saskatchewan. Passed a late camp ground during the morning and reached another at noon. Word was sent back to Gen. Strange that the Indians were close. He came up during the afternoon with the 65th, the Light Infantry, Major Hatton's rifles, and the police gun detachment and the march east was renewed, the advance. Indians were seen on the Frenchman's butte, circling their horses and firing their guns. The camera fired three shots at them, the last one causing them to disappear. Camp was made about a mile beyond the Frenchman's butte. On the 28th the march was resumed, and another deserted camp, where a medicine lodge had been erected, passed. There was a large amount of abandoned plunder in the camp. About two miles beyond camp the bank of a valley about 200 yards wide was reached. The bottom was partially muskeg and a small creek ran through it. The eastern bank was bare and crowned with poplar timber. In the bottom were some tepees and carts, no doubt left as a decoy. A halt was made on the top of the west bank, about 7 o'clock in the morning. Indians were seen moving in the timber on the east side of the valley, and shortly afterwards they opened fire. An advance into the valley was made by the scouts, dismounted, supported by the 65th, but the fire was too warm and they were ordered to retire, with policeman McRae and privates Marcotte and Lemay, of the 65th, wounded. Hospital Sergeant Edmundson brought McRae off the field alone under a hot fire. Majors Steele and Hatton with their commands of mounted men were sent on the right and left flanks respectively, to find if possible a way of attacking the Indians in the rear. After proceeding up the valley about two miles Major Steele found a place where he could cross, and sent back for infantry support in order to make a flank attack. By this time the general had concluded to retire to Pitt, the mounted men were ordered in and the march back commenced. The fort was reached the same night. The force under Gen. Strange's command at the time of the engagement comprised 140 mounted men, 160 of the 65th and 200 of the Light Infantry. Some of the teamsters took part in the firing, but the range was so great and the Indians so well covered that rifles could do little or nothing. The Indians numbered 250 to 300 men and were thoroughly intrenched and well supplied with ammunition. They had the ground in the valley marked for the different ranges and all preparations made for a strong defence. Their loss was caused altogether by the cannon and was slight. Near the camp and in different places along the trail by which they left four bodies of Indians who had died of their wounds were found. The first found was at the camp. The flesh had been torn from the back part of one leg by a piece of shell, supposed to have been the last one fired at the Indians on the Frenchman's hill. The others who died were wounded in the fight in the valley, also by the cannon, of which the Indians were badly frightened.

A second advance of a few miles was made from Pitt on the 30th. On the 31st nothing was done as there was a downpour of rain all day. On the 1st of June the mounted men under Major Steele left camp and making a long detour to the north came upn the entrenchments of the Indians in the rear and found them as well as the camp entirely deserted. Seventy rifle pits which would accommodate from two to seven men were counted along the brow of the hill. Trees had been broken down, branches tied together, and every possible means of defence, especially against cavalry, taken. Several Snider-Enfields were found in the camp and numerous Spencer, Winchester, and breech-loading shot-gun cartridge shells were picked up, showing the kind of weapons that had been in use. To the left of the Indian intrenchments a small ravine came into the valley, the bottom of which was honey-combed with rifle pits for defence against a flank movement on that side. Some of the prisoners had been camped in this ravine during the engagement. Carts, wagons, flour, bacon, fur and other plunder was found scattered about the camp in all directions. On this being reported the camp was moved on several miles beyond the battle ground, on the trail taken by the Indians. The same evening Jas. and F. Rowland brought three horses which they had captured on the bank of the river into camp and reported that the steamers had passed up to Pitt from Battleford with troops. A party of scouts under J. Simons was at once sent to Pitt to meet Gen. Middleton, and on the way during the night fell in with Rev. Mr. Quinney and party of prisoners who had made their escape from the Indians. No. 6 company of the Light Infantry arrived from Edmonton the same evening. The scouts returned to Gen. Strange's camp and reported that Gen. Middleton and the mounted men would be on hand early in the morning. On the strength of information given by Rev. Mr. Quinney, on the morning of the 2nd a party of scouts under J. Simons were sent to follow and bring in the Indians who had Mrs. Delaney and Mrs. Gowanlock with them. The trail pointing eastward was struck during the forenoon and after a hard ride the camp was sighted in the evening. The scouts advanced cautiously until within a short distance, and then with a rush were amongst the tents before any one in the camp knew of their coming. The two women ran at once to the war p[illegible] tested that [illegible] prisoners. The women [illegible] by Simons if they were still pris[illegible] answered that they were, but on arriving at Pitt they said that the parties with whom they were were helping them to escape. The whole party captured were disarmed, camp shifted to open ground, the scouts remaining under arms all night, and next day. June 3rd, the captured party was handed over to a detachment which came out from Gen. Middleton's camp, where they arrived the same evening. After handing over their first capture the same party of scouts turned back and took up the trail of a party of Indians who had struck out from Big Bear after the fight. They were captured while in camp in thick spruce woods and brought to headquarters on the evening of the 4th. The first party captured were heading in an easterly direction, intending to go to Duck lake, the second party was heading north-easterly to Turtle lake, while the main body took a northwesterly direction to Loon lake.

In the meantime, on the morning of the 2nd about 9 o'clock, Major Steele with about 60 men from the police, scouts, and rifles, left Gen Strange's camp to follow up and locate the main body of the Indians under Big Bear, expecting to be followed up and supported by the mounted men with general Middleton, who arrived in Strange's camp an hour after Steele had left. Early in the afternoon shots were exchanged between Steele's advance scouts and some Indians, T. Fisk being shot in the arm. He stayed with the command. No more Indians were seen. A few hours rest were taken about midnight and at day-break a start was made. About 9:30 a.m. the Indian camp was sighted in a flat into which the trail descended, a spruce swamp along the shore of Loon lake to the east and partially bare hills forming a semi-circle on the west. The trail followed by the Indians turned from the camp sharply to the right and crossed from the flat to a large, hilly wooded island by a deep ford 100 yards wide. The main Indian camp was on the island several miles away and out of sight. When first sighted the camp attacked was about 300 yards distant. The scouts were dismounted the horses given the fourth men to hold, a rear guard placed, the remainder of the men extended in skirmishing line and a rush down the hill towards the camp made, the men yelling and firing as they ran. The rush rather surprised the Indians, but they tumbled out of the tepees quickly and returned the scouts' fire. Some of them attempted to occupy the hills to the west of the camp, from which they could have commanded the flat, but a detachment of the scouts got there first and kept them down. The shooting in this part of the engagement was at about 30 yards. The possession of the hills gave the scouts a great advantage which the Indians acknowledged by retreating across the ford, several of them going down in the water. They had succeeded in getting their families and horses across but left everything else in the camp — amongst other things a buck-board, which was used to carry sgt.-major Fury, who was shot through the lungs, in camp. By this time the force of Indians on the island at the ford had been largely increased by reinforcements from the main camp, who kept up a sharp fire and an infernal ki-yi-ing from a perfectly concealed position. An attempt was made by Rev. Mr. McKay to parley for the release of the prisoners, but he was fired upon and told that the prisoners would not be given up to only forty men—the number of Steele's force engaged—but that they, the scouts, would be cleaned out. As the force was too small to carry on a successful attack upon the Indians it was judged best to retreat upon the reinforcements which were confidently expected to be close at hand. Besides sgt.-major Fury wounded, W. West was shot in the left thigh. The bullet was extracted and the wound dressed on the field under fire, so that West was enabled to ride to camp. A guard was left to cover the retreat, but the Indians made no determined attempt to follow. Middleton's force was met about 25 miles from Pitt on the afternoon of the 4th. The expected re-inforcements had never been sent out. The strength of the Indians and their losses in this fight are variously estimated, and are matters considerably in dispute. The Indian strength is given at from 50 to 200 and their loss at from four to 23 killed. It is not certain whether or not the Chipewyans were with the band in this fight, but possibly they were. While it is not likely that the whole fighting force of the Indians was engaged on the main land while their large camp was miles away on the island, it is likely that a very large proportion of them were, inasmuch as this camp was evidently a rear guard and would probably include the best fighting men. Putting their total strength in the first fight at 300 there would in all probability be at least 150 engaged at Loon lake. As to the number killed, when the column came along on the 8th one body still lay close to the trail near the ford and three graves with bodies of men who had died of [illegible] that it was [illegible] On the 3rd Gen. [illegible] Light Infantry, and part of [illegible] troop, left for Frog Lake and Beaver river [illegible] intercept the Chipewyans on their return to their reserve at that place. Camp was broken again on the 6th and Gen. Middleton, with Steele's, Herchmer's, Boulton's and Dennis' mounted men, A battery and two gatlings started on Big Bear's trail. Reached the Loon lake battle ground on the 8th and crossed to the island, finding it abandoned. The trail was followed to the north end of the island, where was an abandoned H. B. C. fish house. Here rafts were made on the 9th and everything crossed to a piece of firm land, which was succeeded by two miles of marsh before the high land was reached. The advance scouts were sent across the muskeg and found a fresh camp with rifle pits, and a fresh trail leading from it in an easterly direction. They followed the trail until they heard a shot ahead, fired at game no doubt, when thinking they were close enough they turned back and reported. On the morning of the 10th the mounted men crossed the muskeg with three days' rations to follow the Indians, but before they could start they were ordered back, and the chase given up. The retreat was commenced at once and Pitt was reached at 10 p.m. on the 11th. Near the north end of Loon island the trail forked, one branch going down to the water's edge on the right, where the lake was quite wide. There had been a camp here also defended by rifle pits, and rafts had evidently been made to transport the women, children and supplies to dry land on the opposite shore, while the men and horses took the route through the muskeg. It is the universal opinion that at the time the chase was abandoned the Indians were not more than fifteen miles distant, and moving slowly, while the mounted men were ample in numbers and thoroughly anxious to do the work.

Steele's command left Pitt on the 13th to join Gen. Strange at Beaver river, and reached the river on the 14th. Here they remained until the 25th, scouting from Cold lake to Black lake, with nothing of note to report. A party was sent out to bring in the McLeans from Lac des Isles, but they went in by another way. On the 23rd word was received that the McLean's had arrived at Pitt. On the 24th the 65th left for Pitt and the scouts on the 25th, arriving on the 26th. On the 29th Herchmer's police, the McLeod police and Boulton's scouts pulled out for Battleford. The steamers were to leave at once with the two generals and the rest of the troops excepting Col. Smith's battalion and thirteen men of the mountain division police. On the 30th Steele's command, Oswald's scouts and Hatton's rifles left for Edmonton, arriving at noon on Monday, July 6th, after an absence of two days less than two months.

GENERAL NEWS.

Rapid City is kicking against municipal expenses.

The Winnipeg Commercial complains that although Winnipeg bonused the C. P. R. heavily the repair shops which were located there as a condition of the bonus are not kept in full blast, all possible work being done in the east.

Duncan McArthur, Arch. Wright, Alex. McIntyre, R. D. Bathgate, ex-Mayor Logan, E. L. Drewry, R. O'Loughnian, J. R. Clements, E. D. Moore, Capt. McMillan, J. S. Hough, and Capt. Flannigan have purchased 10,000 shares in the Winnipeg and North-West petroleum company.

It is satisfactory to notice that when the Edmonton Indian agency has been divided into three parts the two new agencies have been given to men who have been connected with these portions of the district for a number of years, and have shown themselves to be competent officers, instead of importing inexperienced men from the east and placing them over the present agents' heads, as has been too often the custom in North-West appointments. Mr. S. B. Lucas, the agent for the Peace hills division, has been in the service of the department there as farm instructor ever since the farm instructors were first appointed, and on a certain memorable occasion a couple of years ago, was nominated by the Indians of the Peace hills as their agent, so that now they have no reason to complain. Mr. J. A. Mitchell has also been in the service of the department for a number of years, and had charge of matters at Victoria as acting sub-agent for several months. There is every reason to believe that he enjoys the confidence of the Indians of his district. The division of the original Edmonton district will be a great relief to the present agent, Mr. Anderson, who, there is no doubt, has been over burdened with mere routine labour, to say nothing of responsibility, in the past. It was most necessary since Indian affairs assumed the critical shape they did this spring, that the facilities for management should be increased as they have been; and the increase has been made with discretion and credit to all concerned.

A DESPATCH from Calgary to the Winnipeg Times, dated June 8th, declares that every pound of freight sent north by the new supply officer there had been forwarded at reduced rates, saving the government a very large amount and the service had been better performed. This item locates the Mail's energetic North-West liar at Calgary. The supply officer loaded and shipped north several thousand pounds of freight by Edmonton teams, at the rate of $8 a day, at which they were engaged, although not until after some most disgraceful kicking on his part or until he had been treated to a lawyer's letter on their behalf. As to the saving to the government and the efficiency of the service, the trains which have been despatched at the $6 per day rate have taken 18 and 20 days to make the trip made in eleven and thirteen days by the teams at $8 a day, while Baker's bull teams made the remarkably sudden time of 28 days, and came into Edmonton with their brakes on their wheels to make it appear that they had loads to haul, when really they were almost light, having discharged the greater part of their cargo at Battle river, 70 miles south. Where the saving in money or increase in efficiency came in in these cases only the supply officer or his apologist can see. Furthermore, be it remembered that when this decreased rate and increased expense and loss of time was made, the conditions of danger which caused the first high rates to be paid had ceased to exist. A comparison of the circumstances of the two cases and of the actual expense and efficiency in both is most unfavorable to the present Calgary officer, and shows a heavy net loss to the government.

METEOROLOGICAL.

Weather report for week ending Friday evening, July 10th, 1885. Reported for the BULLETIN by Mr. Alexander Taylor, observer at Edmonton.

	Max	Min.
Saturday,	78	53
Sunday,	81	48
Monday,	73	42
Tuesday,	51	47
Wednesday,	47	41
Thursday,	67	42
Friday,	76	37

Barometer falling, 27.775.

Rainfall for week, one inch.

TO THE ELECTORS OF EDMONTON DISTRICT,

GENTLEMEN:—

Having been personally asked by a large number of the electors of this district, and requested also by a requisition signed by a great many of the leading electors of St. Albert, Ft. Saskatchewan and Edmonton, to stand as a candidate for the membership of the North West council, I have after due consideration decided to do so.

My views upon the public questions of the day are tolerably well known to most of you. As a property holder of some extent, and having all my interests in this district, I may I think lay claim to having an interest in the development and well-governing of the North West, and shall if elected use all my power to obtain such legislation as will assist to develop our resources in every shape and form.

Believing that the best interests of the North West cannot be served (at the present time) by factious opposition and senseless agitation against whatever government may be in power, I shall always oppose any such course, but at the same time will always stand up for the rights of the settlers and endeavor to secure the privileges which this country is entitled to.

During the past few years the population and resources of the territories have increased so rapidly that the form of government and mode of administering the public affairs which was quite adequate and satisfactory when the country was thinly settled and had no important interests at stake is at the present time not only inadequate but unsatisfactory and unjust. We are taxed both directly and indirectly by the federal government, and pay more taxes per head than the people of the provinces, while we have no voice or say as to the levying of these taxes, no representation at the source where these taxes are imposed—in fact we have no form of responsible government for the territories. Believing this condition of affairs to be unjust, it will be my aim to direct all the power the council possesses to bring the question before the federal government with the view of being accorded representation in the house of commons.

As at present constituted the council possesses very limited legislative power, which should be enlarged and extended so as to give it the same powers and functions as a province, and more particularly to give it the control of all monies in its treasury, and to conduct all local affairs upon the system of responsible government.

Believing that it is upon the agricultural and mining industries that we must to a great extent depend for the present and future prosperity of the of the North West, it will always be my first aim to secure and assist such legislation as will benefit and help the farmers, encourage immigration, protect and develop the mining interest.

I consider the half-breeds of the country are entitled to the same treatment as their brethren received in Manitoba, and therefore I will support as far as possible any effort made to secure that which they have a right to look for.

If elected I shall serve the people of this district to the best of my ability, without fear or favor, and without respect to party, class or locality.

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,
H. C. WILSON.

CHURCHES.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—Hours of Sunday service: All-Saints 11 a.m., St. Michael's 6.30 p.m. W.N.

ST. JOACHIM'S, R. C. CHURCH, Edmonton. Mass at 10 a.m. every Sunday. Sermon in English and Cree. Afternoon services at 3 o'clock. H. GRANDIN, O.M.I.

METHODIST CHURCH OF CANADA. J. H. Howard, Pastor. Hours of service, 11 a.m. and 7.00 p.m. Sabbath chool, 2.30 p.m Prayer meeting and lecture, Wednesday evening at 7 p.m.

EDMONTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. —Pastor, the Rev. Andrew B. Baird, M.A., assisted by Mr. James Hamilton, B.A., Sabbath services at Edmonton, 11 a. m., and 7 p.m. Sabbath school at 2:30 p.m. Fort Saskatchewan every Sabbath at 10:30 a.m.; Sturgeon River, June 14, 21, 28, July 12, 19, 26 at 3 p.m.; Clover Bar, June 21, July 5, 19 at 2:30 p.m.; Belmont, June 28, July 12, 26 at 2:30 p.m.

TO THE ELECTORS OF EDMONTON ELECTORAL DISTRICT.

GENTLEMEN:—

Having had the honor to be your first choice as representative of this district in the North-West council, I now offer myself for re-election. What my course has been you know, and should you approve of it so far as to elect me again you may depend that it will not be altered. My voice and vote will always be found on the side of the North-West settler no matter who or what may oppose. In the passage of ordinances and the distribution of funds the interests of this district will receive my fullest and most careful attention.

Believing that the people of the North-West have the same rights as Canadians elsewhere in Canada, for the full exercise of which they are now fitted by numbers and intelligence—and believing further that the exercise of these rights is necessary to the proper development of the country—I shall press: For such changes in the North-West council as shall make every member directly responsible to the people—and to them alone—as is the case in the legislative assemblies of the provinces; For the extension of the powers of the council to the limits allowed the legislatures of the provinces; For a revenue from the federal treasury on the same terms and of the same proportionate amount as is allowed the several provinces; and For representation of the people of the territories in the federal parliament as is allowed the people of the provinces.

Until the territories have been accorded parliamentary representation, I consider it an important part of the duty of the council to publicly represent the views of the people on such matters as immediately concern their interests, but at present are under the sole control of the federal government.

Of these matters the most important I believe to be: The settlement upon equitable and liberal terms of the claims of all parties who have taken up land in any district before the establishment of a land office, and also of the claims of half-breeds entitled to consideration according to the terms granted the half-breeds of Manitoba; The survey of the leading trails as permanent highways, and especially the survey and improvement of the Bow river trail throughout its entire length; The holding of colonization land, timber and mineral speculators to their agreements with the government, or the cancellation of those agreements by the government; The abolition of the dues on settlers' wood and hay, at least in this district; The alteration of the system of reserving alternate sections throughout the country for sale, to a system of reserving alternate quarter sections to be sold as pre-emptions to the settlers on the adjoining homestead quarter sections; The opening of a railway outlet by way of Hudson's Bay; and the enforcement of a prohibitory liquor law throughout the territories until a majority of the people have declared against it by a direct vote.

Yours,
FRANK OLIVER.